

Suggested Remarks
Daniel Moore, OEE Chief
ECAP Area Office Launching
University of the Cordilleras, Baguio City
February 28, 2006, 8:30 a.m.

***Note: Names of VIPs to be added later by
ECAP***

This is my second visit to beautiful Baguio City and I made sure that aside from work, I was able to have a bit of leisure time, and able to once again experience the "scent of pines." I am also thrilled this time by the chance to witness the Flower Festival.

Yesterday, I participated in the opening of USAID's Energy and Clean Air Project ("ECAP") Clean Air booth along historic Session Road which was also historically declared as a vehicle-free area -- at least for this week. Thanks to all of you who "walked the extra mile for clean air" along Session Road over the past few days!

We are here this morning to launch the ECAP Project Area Office in partnership with the University of the Cordilleras. The "PAO" will serve as ECAP's coordination center for its activities in Baguio City, as we help the city government, in partnership with civil society and other stakeholders, to improve the air quality. We have set up similar PAOs in the three other ECAP target cities of Cebu, Davao, and Metro Manila where pollution presents severe health and economic impacts.

We at USAID are pleased that the University has accepted ECAP to become an ally and partner in promoting clean air, cleaner alternative fuels, and towards building a local constituency for a healthy environment.

ECAP's partnership with academia is part of an overall strategy building a sustainable capacity in support of Baguio's energy and

clean air objectives. Through ECAP, we encourage wider participation of the civil society, NGOs, the private sector, the church, and LGUs, as they work towards the common goal of bringing back the "scent of pines" to the very beautiful (and very cool) city of Baguio.

On Sunday, we also witnessed the parade of floats. Through our ECAP and SEDP (Sustainable Energy Development Project), we are proud to have participated in the parade and promoted the value of clean environment. I would like to recognize the efforts of our local partners, the Baguio Bantay Kalinisan, Inc. (BBKI) and the Task Force, and the Coalition for Clean Cities for putting up that very innovative float, which symbolizes the close collaboration among groups of concerned Baguio City citizens.

This morning we cut the ribbon of the ECAP PAO's cozy office space here at the University. Our guests today, the city

administration, business sector, and the academic community will witness the birth of a Center for Energy and Clean Air in Baguio City. This Office now takes on the responsibility of informing, educating, and involving the community in preserving life-sustaining energy, and in helping to make sure that Baguio's citizens (and their visitors) have healthy air to breathe.

We invite you, as energy and clean air stakeholders, to join us in taking on this challenge as well, as we work together to make Baguio City a successful story of partnership! Thank you very much! Salamat at Mabuhay!!!